

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 105238
ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /015 R

66011
DRAFTED BY:IO/HDC:EDDIE EDWARDS
APPROVED BY:IO/HDC:ROBT ANDREW
-----051538 252106Z /73
R 251921Z APR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
INFO USMISSION GENEVA 1084

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FOLLOWING REPEAT KUALA LUMPUR 3332 ACTION SECSTATE DATED APR 21:

QTE:LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KUALA LUMPUR 3332

E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: SNAR, MY
SUBJECT: DEMAND REDUCTION ASSISTANCE

REF: A) STATE 93604, B) KUALA LUMPUR 2053,
C) KUALA LUMPUR 0060

1. THE EMBASSY APPROACHED ADNAN ABDULLAH, DIRECTOR
GENERAL OF SOCIAL WELFARE, AND DR. V. NAVARATNAM OF
UNIVERSITI SAINS PENANG (WHO HAS JUST BEEN GIVEN
RESPONSIBILITY FOR COORDINATING INTERNATIONAL
ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS IN THE NEW GOM NARCOTICS
ACTION UNIT--SEE PARA 4, BELOW) TO DISCUSS THE
REVISED MINISTRY OF WELFARE SERVICES (MWS) TRAINING
PROJECT. BOTH CONCUR IN THE NEW PROPOSAL, AS DOES
THE EMBASSY.

2. ADNAN ALSO AGREED THAT THE DELAY IN FIELDING
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THE TRAINING TEAM IS FORTUITOUS, SINCE SEVERAL
OFFICERS WHO ARE NOW RECEIVING THEIR MASTERS
DEGREES IN SOCIAL WORK IN THE U.K. WILL BE
RETURNING TO MALAYSIA IN DECEMBER RATHER THAN
IN SEPTEMBER AS HE HAD EXPECTED. ADNAN WILL
ASSIGN THESE OFFICERS TO HIS TRAINING CENTER
AND WANTS THEM TO BE EXPOSED TO AT LEAST PART

OF THE WORK OF THE TRAINING TEAM HERE. (HE SAID THAT THREE OTHER OFFICERS WILL ACT AS THE FORMAL UNDERSTUDIES TO THE TRAINING TEAM MEMBERS FOR THE FULL DURATION OF THEIR STAY HERE.) WE THEREFORE RECOMMEND THAT THE TRAINING TEAM BE SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE IN MALAYSIA AS LATE AS POSSIBLE IN CY 1978. ADNAN ALSO REQUESTED THAT THE TRAINING DESIGN CONSULTANT COME NO EARLIER THAN JUNE IN ORDER TO MAKE THE BEST USE OF THE TIME OF MSW PERSONNEL.

3. CONTRARY TO THE IMPRESSION GIVEN US BY DATUK JARJIS (REFTEL B), NAVARATNAM SAID THAT RAIS YATIM IS EAGER TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THE ADVISOR TO PEMADAM, ALTHOUGH HE MIGHT NOT BE SO FULLY INVOLVED WITH A HALF-WAY HOUSE AS WE HAD ORIGINALLY THOUGHT. NAVARATNAM PROMISED TO SEND US A FORMAL REQUEST WITH A LIST OF GOM REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ADVISOR WITHIN TWO WEEKS. COMMENT. IT LOOKS LIKE THIS PROJECT MIGHT BE BACK ON TRACK.

4. NAVARATNAM TOLD US IN CONFIDENCE THAT A NARCOTICS ACTION UNIT HAS BEEN SET UP UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER, A DIRECT RESULT OF UN NARCOTIC DIVISION DIRECTOR DR. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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GEROGE TING'S RECOMMENDATION THAT THE GOM BETTER COORDINATE ITS NARCOTICS EFFORTS (REFTEL C). THE UNIT'S DIRECTOR IS DEPUTY HOME AFFAIRS MINISTER RAIS YATIM AND IT HAS REPRESENTATIVES FROM EACH MINISTRY WITH A NARCOTICS ROLE. OF SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE TO THE USG, NAVARATNAM SAID THAT FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR DRUG ENFORCEMENT HAS BEEN GIVEN TO THE CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DEPARTMENT (CID) OF THE ROYAL MALAYSIAN POLICE AND THE DIRECTOR OF CID HAS THE POWER TO ALLOCATE RESOURCES AND OVERRULE THE HEADS OF OTHER ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES. NAVARATNAM SAID THAT FOR POLITICAL REASONS THE LAW MINISTRY'S CENTRAL NARCOTICS BUREAU (CNB) WILL REMAIN IN EXISTENCE "FOR THE TIME BEING" BUT THAT THE CID DIRECTOR WILL CONTROL ITS OPERATIONS. MSW WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR COORDINATING ALL TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION. WE WILL REPORT FURTHER ON THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE ACTION UNIT AFTER NAVARATNAM PROVIDES US WITH TERMS OF REFERENCE AND ORGANIZATION. MILLER UNQTE VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PERSONNEL TRAINING, DRUG CONTROL, DRUG ABUSE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE105238
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: IO/HDC:EDDIE EDWARDS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780177-0289
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780419/aaaaapko.tel
Line Count: 115
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: e568bca7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 93604, 78 KUALA LUMPUR 2053
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 jul 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2853301
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DEMAND REDUCTION ASSISTANCE
TAGS: SNAR, MY
To: GENEVA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/e568bca7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014